

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, November 7, 2007 3:08 p.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Mayes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Sheltroun, Ball, Nitz, Meekhof, Agema.

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Angerer.

Representative Brown made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2007. No objections being offered, the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

Representative Nitz made a motion to excuse absent members. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

The Chair laid HB 5185 before the Committee for the purpose of hearing testimony.

HB 5185	Steil	Animals; dogs; definition of livestock in the dog law of 1919; expand to include alpaca, llamas, and privately owned cervids.
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Representative Steil spoke to the Committee regarding the provisions of HB 5185.

Dr. Nancy Frank, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), spoke in support of HB 5185.

Tom Hickson, representing the Michigan Association of Counties, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Rebecca Park, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card indicating support for the bill.

Patricia Biernbaum, representing the Michigan Llama Association, spoke in support of HB 5185.

Dr. Al W. Stinson, representing the Michigan Association of Purebred Dogs and the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation, spoke in support of HB 5185.

Sheri Witte, representing the Cervid Farmers of Michigan Association, spoke in support of HB 5185.

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Bryan Ruhf, representing His Way Alpacas, LLC, spoke in support of HB 5185.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Mayes declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 3:48 p.m.

Representative Jeff Mayes, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538